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SOC 4-01.2 F: "YEAR OF TRIAL..."
Approved For Release 2005/08/23 : CIA-RDP88-01350R000200820004-6
FULLER, HELEN

18 July 1962 X: BOOK REVIEWS

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION

TO: THE DIRECTOR

1. Helen Fuller, of "The New Republic," in the attached book, "YEAR OF TRIAL--KENNEDY'S CRUCIAL DECISIONS," refers to Mr. McCone on pp. 65 and 288, and to Allen W. Dulles on pp. 36, 55, 65, 247, and 271. She refers to the Central Intelligence Agency on pp. 36, 49, 60, 63, 65, 225, 271; and to Cuba with CIA on pp. 52, 54, 55, 56, and 59.

2. On p. 36, under the heading, "Kennedy's Commandos," the writer relates an alleged scene at Hyannis Port the evening after Mr. Kennedy's election, when one of the three close friends of Mr. Kennedy said:

"There is just one thing I want you to do--fire J. Edgar Hoover!"

"No," the second interrupted, 'much more important than that, get Allen Dulles out of the CIA immediately.' He had sat at the dinner table of a national columnist the night after the U-2 incident, he said, and heard Dulles declare that flight 'a triumph of American foreign policy.' 'Dulles,' Kennedy's guest warned, 'would be trying to carry on his dead brother's policies in your Administration.'"

She goes on to state that the next morning, the two friends saw in the paper that Mr. Kennedy's first appointive acts were to request Hoover and Dulles to remain in their posts. She explains it thusly:

"The new President was obviously in a hurry to identify himself with the Establishment in Government. That was essential to his first purpose--to win national acceptance of his leadership."

3. On p. 65 appears the following regarding Mr. McCone:

"Apparently the same desire that had led him to ask Mr. Dulles to remain in his Administration in the first place--the desire to demonstrate that this sensitive part of the Government was outside of politics--prompted Mr. Kennedy to choose as successor to Dulles a Nixon Republican, John A. McCone, California industrialist and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission under Eisenhower. McCone is known for his enthusiasm as a cold warrior and his energy and initiative as an operator, but it remains to be seen how willing he will be to keep CIA in step with foreign policy as laid down by the White House."

4. On p. 288 she states:

"The Atomic Energy Commissioners (with certain reservations), the Joint Chiefs of Staff, most of the military services, CIA Director John McCone, ranking members of the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and many scientists (including the highly vocal Dr. Edward Teller) urged new tests in the air."

STANLEY J. GROGAN

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cc: DDCI w/o attach.

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